UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

FEBRUARY 1918

The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

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THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

ALL OF THESE SOCIETIES have their headquarters in the building of the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. The names of the principal officers of each society will be found on the first pages of the sections devoted to their respective organizations. The work and purpose of these societies may be stated in brief as follows:

THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

THE ASSOCIATION was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity." In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

THE ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

THE UNION was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

UNITARIAN WORD AND WORK is regularly issued by the Publication Department of the American Unitarian Association on the first day of each month from October to June inclusive. Subscriptions can begin with any issue. Single copies, 7 cents; Subscription prices: individual subscriptions, 50 cents; in groups of 25 or more from one church, 40 cents each; 50 or more, 35 cents. Address the Publication Department, American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

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Vol. 21 FEBRUARY, 1918 No. 5

EDITORIAL

The Reunion of Life Members

THE Second Annual Reunion of the Life Members of the American Unitarian Association, held on the evening of the 17th of January at the Hotel Brunswick, Boston, was successful beyond the expectations of the committee of arrangements. The large dining hall had been freshly renewed and rearranged by the hotel management, and proved to be well adapted to an occasion of this kind. The members and their guests were seated at round tables accommodating eight people each, and when they were seated the place was well filled. Notwithstanding the fact that the committee, having in view the proprieties of war time, had dispensed with printed menus, decorations and other accessories usually employed on such occasions, the atmosphere of good fellowship and sympathetic interest in the objects of the gathering, gave the whole affair the character of friendliness and hospitality. The menu itself was confined strictly to those articles of diet which are exempt from conservation, but it was daintily prepared, ample, and well served. Members from at least five different states were in attendance. The music, conducted by Mrs. Belle Y. Renfrew, was well rendered and heartily appreciated, and the singing of patriotic hymns was most enthusiastic.

Meetings of this kind cannot be held too often by the Unitarian fellowship. Isolation in the case of Unitarians, rather than familiarity with the aims and methods of our organized agencies, tends to breed contempt, or at least indifference; and when the high purposes and the efficient means employed to extend our influence and our work are fully understood, even the critics are converted and become earnest and devoted workers.

Dr. Samuel A. Eliot presided with such a commingling of good humor and deep earnestness, that all present realized that the gathering had its truly religious as well as its social aspects. It is impossible at the present time for public speakers to avoid, even if they are so inclined, the solemn subject which occupies the minds of the people. Dr. Eliot's familiarity with the work which is being done by our own and other churches, and his knowledge of the various Federations, Councils and Committees, organized to co-operate with the government in the conduct of the war, enabled him to throw much light upon the great opportunities which confront the churches of our liberal faith. There was no attempt on the part of any of the speakers to evade the tremendous issues in which we are involved.

Rev. Elmer S. Forbes, Secretary of the War Work Council, was the first speaker. He enumerated the various ways in which our ministers and our churches are working for and with our oldiers and sailors. He emphasized the fact that at Camp Devens there are a greater number of Unitarian soldiers than at any of the other military stations,

and, in consequence, the Unitarian representatives are taking on larger duties and entering more extensively into the work here than elsewhere. The Unitarians are members of the Christian Federation of Churches, and are doing their full share in many interesting ways, to counsel and assist the soldiers and their friends. Mr. Forbes referred to the literature which the Association is printing and everyone felt at the conclusion of his speech that our small fellowship had been fully awake to the labors required at our hands.

Mrs. Sara S. Gilson was the second speaker. She is stationed at Ayer under commission from the War Work Council, and her eloquent address was listened to with deepest interest. She is serving her country along advisory, friendly and intensely practical lines. The women of our fellowship already are familiar with the work that Mrs. Gilson is doing for she has addressed many Alliances and interested hundreds of their members in the peculiar kind of work that a sympathetic, intelligent and thoroughly consecrated woman can do at such a place. Her address was illuminating and instructive beyond measure.

The last address was given by Dr. Francis G. Peabody, and was a comprehensive analysis of the great changes which the war is bringing about. He related many instances to show that the dogmatic and sacerdotal methods employed by the Christian denominations in years gone by are utterly inadequate to satisfy the intellectual and spiritual needs of the modern soldier. The present situation in camp and at the battle front reveals the insignificance of small things, and the grandeur of the great things related to the spiritual nature of man. He showed by many brilliant illustrations that the Christian church must hereafter lay the emphasis of its labor, its thought, and its aspirations upon those intrinsic laws of righteousness and reverence which are fundamental in human life. He drew a contrast between the creeds which constitute only the scaffolding built around the permanent structures of religion, and the faith which emerges from the human soul in its dependence upon God. Religion has been detached from life. It has been separated from the great experiences in which the human soul is involved, and the forms, ceremonies and sacraments upon which Christian establishments have conducted their activities seem irrelevant and futile. Out of this awful period of international distress must come the pure spirit of true Christianity; otherwise there must follow a complete surrender of the Christian world to materialism and atheistic indifference. A new valuation of Reality and of the eternal laws of righteousness and love must supplant the superficial and transient doctrines of the Christian church, or the Christian church must become merely a matter of tradition. From his analysis of the present situation Dr. Peabody drew the great lessons which appeal to us as a communion which accepts wholly and without reserve the simple but fundamental teachings of the Gospels. If the Christian world again turns back to sectarianism and its contentions over the letter of the law, to its hair-splittings and its superstitious reverance for mere mint and anise, it will become a survival of antiquity, welcomed only by the sentimentalist and the ecclesiastical functionary.

The Reunion was intended to be a meeting, in the family spirit, of those who have committed themselves to the great principles of a free faith, and it was all that; but the times prompted it to become also an occasion of searching inquiry and an hour of great illumination concerning the vast changes which are taking place in human society. It will not fail to have its influence, directly upon those who were present and, indirectly, upon all the instrumentalities through which the Unitarian body is doing its part to hasten the coming of, and to prepare the way for, the approaching new age of the world.

AT a meeting of a Ministers' Association some years ago, the subject under consideration was the Religious Condition of Rural Communities. Many interesting and significant facts were revealed. The essayist presented,

as a result of his investigations, every possible and imaginable reason why the various churches in such communities were not better supported. He had discovered, after making a careful canvass, that the one greatest obstacle, especially in the older parishes, was the existence of innumerable petty family and social feuds. In most instances the accounts were of long standing. All the changes in theology for at least one hundred years, all the unfortunate and unworthy ministries, together with such falling off in population as had taken place, had failed to do so much to injure the moral and religious prosperity of these churches as the little penny-weight personal antagonisms which, springing up from the smallest possible beginnings, had been cultivated and cherished, often to the third and fourth generation, until they choked and fettered every attempt at co-operative Christian endeavor.

These miserable, social pests had not sprung up because of, but in spite of, the churches themselves. They had made the people narrow, wilful, and blind to the greater purposes of religious institutions.

In one instance a clergyman, more audacious than his colleagues, in order to formulate some plan for getting rid of these obstructions to his work, ran down some of the disintegrating conditions to see what their origin might have been. It was discovered that, in the great majority of instances, there was nothing more than an unjust interpretation of some act which was not intended at the time to be an injury at all; and often the initial act was prompted by a desire to do good. Some prejudiced person had mistaken a good impulse, reported what was intended to be a good deed as if it had an evil purpose, and so the petty trouble had been fanned from a spark to a flame, which had been burning for generations.

AT the present time, serious, and to some extent self-sacrificing efforts are being made to bring the Protestant churches together in the name of economy and efficiency. Often where a half dozen such religious societies exist, there are as many neglected, uninspiring and unsuccessful churches, competing, one with another, for increased membership, and all alike failing utterly to reach a majority of the people. Often if one looks beneath the surface he will find that the difficulty does not consist in theological difference, but in these petty neighborhood feuds and scandals, which have for generations been in existence, smoldering like half-burned embers in the religious ashes of the community. It is not because the Jones' believe in immersion and the Smith's in sprinkling, nor because there is any serious difference about the divinity or humanity of Jesus, but because Deacon Brown once upon a time failed to gain his point in town meeting, or in a church controversy about the horse-sheds. So long-lived and iniquitous are these local quarrels, it becomes well nigh impossible for any two of the churches to combine their resources and worship together in the name of Christian peace and unity. It would not be difficult to find instances where even the dead continue to live by means of the funds which they have left for the support of public worship. Instances could be cited where funds have been bequeathed to churches on such conditions as to prevent any practical working out of the church federation program. All agree that as an ideal, if at least two-thirds of the little, struggling poverty-stricken churches in such communities could combine into one strong organization, with one or more able and well paid ministers, and a correspondingly well equipped choir, and rooms for philanthropic and social work, the whole tone of the community would be raised, and the bitter and demoralizing memories of the past would be forgotten.

L. G. W.

American Unitarian Association

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. SAMUEL A. ELIOT, D. D., *President* — HENRY M. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer*
Rev. LOUIS C. CORNISH, *Secretary* — W. FORBES ROBERTSON, *Assistant Secretary*

Ministerial Personals

Another of our honored veterans, Rev. Joseph May, LL. D., died in Philadelphia on January 9. He was the son of the distinguished Dr. Samuel J. May of Syracuse. He graduated at Harvard in 1857 and from the Divinity School in 1865. After short pastorates at Yonkers, N. Y., and Newport, Mass., he served the First Church in Philadelphia for forty-one years, twenty-five years as minister and sixteen years as Pastor Emeritus.

Rev. E. A. Coil died at Marietta, Ohio, on January 14, closing a very honorable and useful career. He had been minister at Marietta for the last twenty-two years. He was also Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias.

Rev. Martha C. Aitken died at Wollaston, Mass., on January 15. She was ordained to the ministry in 1894 but had not recently been in active service.

Rev. J. C. Allen has accepted a call to Charlestown, N. H., and Rev. A. C. White to Tyngsboro, Mass.

Rev. A. C. Nickerson has resigned at Westwood, Mass., Rev. John Baltzly at Plainfield, N. J., Rev. E. G. Spencer at South Natick, Mass., Rev. A. H. Coar at Holyoke, Mass., and Rev. H. H. Lloyd at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Rev. R. S. Forbes was installed at Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., on January 6, and Rev. F. R. Griffin at the First Church, Philadelphia, on January 13.

Rev. W. L. Chaffin has completed fifty years of service in one parish, North Easton, Mass. He preached at an Anniversary Service on Sunday, January 6.

Rev. H. R. Williams of Concord, N. H., Rev. L. S. Pratt of New Bedford, Mass., and Rev. W. M. Howlett of Brooklyn, N. Y., have accepted commissions from the Y. M. C. A. to serve as Overseas Secretaries.

On the Honor Roll of Unitarian ministers in War Service are now seventeen names. Three ministers are serving as chaplains, two are commissioned officers of the National Army, three are in the Canadian Service, one is in the Ambulance Corps, and eight are Overseas Secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. On the Honor Roll of the ministers who have sons in the army or navy there are now forty-three names.

Buildings

The fine old meeting-house of the First Parish in Pepperell, Mass., built nearly one hundred and fifty years ago, was destroyed by fire on Sunday, December 30.

A generous member of the First Parish in Weston, Mass., has given to the Society a new organ. For its accommodation and for additional facilities, including a new minister's room, the northern end of the church is being enlarged and rebuilt.

The new church at Schenectady, N. Y., was occupied for the first time on Sunday, January 13, and the vestry of the new church in Sanford will soon be ready for use.

Appointments

The Sunday preaching appointments of the President of the Association during the past month have been at Worcester (Second Parish) January 6; Providence (First Church) January 13; Clinton, January 20; and Baltimore, January 27. He has also been in New York attending the meeting of the Trustees of the Hackley School and a noonday luncheon of ministers and laymen of the Greater New York District, in Philadelphia, where the ministers of the Greater Philadelphia District met him at luncheon, and at the church in Lancaster, Pa. He has attended the meetings of the Association's Directors

and Committees, of the War Work Council, of the Trustees of the Barnard Home, of the Massachusetts Federation of Churches, of the Cambridge Association of Ministers, of the Unitarian Club of Boston. He has visited Camp Devens and Camp Dix and presided at the Reunion of the Life Members of the Association. He is now in Washington attending the meeting of the United States Board of Indian Commissioners.

The recent preaching appointments of the Secretary of the Association have been at Wollaston, where he made the address at the dedication of the service flag; at Fitchburg, where he took part in the installation of Dr. Pease on January 6; at Christ Church, Dorchester, on January 13; and at King's Chapel on January 20, where he had part in the service attended by members of the 302nd Field Artillery, when the communion service for the use of the chaplain of the regiment was dedicated.

The appointments of the Editorial Secretary have been at the meeting of the Needham Alliance on January 4; at Clinton on January 6, and at Pittsfield on January 13.

Field Secretary Brown has been steadily at work at Worcester, Mass. Field Secretary Gilmore has preached and spoken at All Souls', New York; Trenton and Montclair, N. J.; Albany and Staten Island, N. Y. He has met with the New Jersey ministers at Elizabeth at the ministers' lunch, and the luncheon for Dr. Eliot in New York, with the Fellowship Committee and has kept many appointments at the New York office. Field Secretary Nobbs has spent a frigid month in Maine, preaching at Augusta, Ellsworth, Calais and Houlton. He has also spoken at Randolph, Mass., and Franklin, N. H. In all but one of these churches the services are being held in the vestry, in order to save coal. The Field Secretary reports that he advises churches to conserve on coal and parish suppers, but not on the salaries of the ministers or in personal attendance and interest in the services.

Journeys

Rev. Minot Simons of Cleveland has accepted a commission to go South during the coming month. His first Sunday appointment is at Knoxville, Tenn., on February 3. On his way to Knoxville he has visited Camp Sherman at Chillicothe, O., and he has spoken at Charleston, W. Va. From Knoxville he proceeds to Chattanooga and then visits Camp McClellan at Anniston, Ala. On Sunday, February 10, he will be at Birmingham, Ala., and he will then spend several days at Camp Sheridan at Montgomery, Ala. Sunday, February 15, will find him at Jacksonville, Fla. He will then proceed to Charleston, and to Camp Jackson at Columbia, S. C., and Camp Wadsworth at Spartansburg, S. C., and so homeward. During his absence his pulpit will be supplied by President Southworth and Professor Bowen of Meadville, and Rev. Maxwell Savage of Lynn.

The Editorial Secretary of the Association, Rev. L. G. Wilson, is on a two months' journey to the Pacific Coast. He will begin at Marietta, O., on Sunday, February 3, proceeding thence to St. Louis and to Kansas City for Sunday, February 10. He will then go straight through to southern California and will visit all the churches of that section, attending also a meeting of the Southern California Conference. The two Sundays, February 24 and March 3, will probably be given to Los Angeles and Santa Barbara. Mr. Wilson will then go up to visit all the churches around San Francisco Bay, preaching on Sunday, March 10, at Berkeley. He then expects to return Eastward, reaching Salt Lake City for Sunday, March 17, and probably Omaha for Sunday, March 24.

Rev. N. J. Springer, Secretary of the Young People's Religious Union, will during the same period visit the churches in the middle West. He too has already started on his journey, beginning on Sunday, January 27, at Troy, N. Y. He will then go to Albany, Schenectady and Brooklyn, reaching Rochester for Sunday, February 3. Sunday, Febru-

ary 10, will find him at Meadville after a visit to Buffalo and other churches in the Meadville section. He will reach Ann Arbor for Sunday, February 17, and spend the week in Michigan, arriving at Evanston, Ill., for Sunday, February 24. His remaining appointments are at Alton, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Pittsburg, and Philadelphia, Pa., and Vineland, N. J.

Rev. Walter S. Swisher of New London, Conn., has gone South to take charge for two months of the church at Atlanta, Ga., which has been served for the past three months by Rev. R. E. Conner. Mr. Conner on his way north will preach at Chattanooga and Nashville, and will then take charge of Mr. Swisher's pulpit at New London.

Finances

Eight more parishes have sent in their contributions for the Association, including the large gifts from Milton, Mass., and Kings' Chapel, Boston. The treasury of the Association is, however, getting to look like the coal bins in a good many houses, and there is serious and urgent need that it be replenished if the work is to go forward. In war times some people are led to believe that patriotism demands all their gifts of time and strength and money. It will not do, however, to neglect the sources of patriotism itself. The organized forces of religion are indispensable for the patriotic inspiration of the people. All over the land the churches have proved themselves the sources of the support of all our patriotic endeavors. More than ever before the churches are needed for the interpretation of the times, for the strengthening of the will of the people against the trials and tragedies of the days, for the restraint of impatience, for the abatement of the malignant reactions incident to war, for the upbuilding of the temper of mind out of which shall issue a just and permanent peace. Behind the forces of freedom and democracy there must be the persistent moral motives which are nourished in the churches. Our success in the great war depends not merely on men and money, guns and ships, but on the spirit of the people — their patience, persistence, and self-sacrificing devotion to a great cause. To let the churches pine and die will be the worst possible strategy. Let February, then, be the banner month for gathering and sending in the money so urgently needed to sustain this work of inestimable worth.

Union Services

The resolution passed by the Directors of the Association in December, recommending the federation of churches and thereby combining economy in the use of fuel with a deepening sense of fellowship among the churches, has resulted in a considerable number of temporary mergers for the winter or for the duration of the war. In addition to the mergers mentioned in the last issue of WORD AND WORK, it may be noted that at Salem, Mass., the three Unitarian Churches are holding union services, meeting successively in the three church buildings. At Hingham the First and Third Churches are thus united. At Worcester the First Unitarian Church and the Central Congregational Church have united, and the Church of the Unity is holding union services with the First Universalist Church. These meetings are held on alternate Sundays in the churches of the cooperating Societies. At West Somerville the Congregationalists, Unitarians and Universalists have all joined in one union service and hold all their meetings in the Congregational Church. The Swedish Lutheran, Swedish Evangelical Society, and the Presbyterian Church also use the building, though with separate services. At Belfast, Me., Concord, N. H., Barre, Belmont, Lexington, Springfield, Leominster, Lowell and Reading, Mass., the Unitarian and Congregational Churches have joined and many similar mergers are now being negotiated. Four of the churches in Ayer, Mass., all in the town except the Baptist, have united their services in the building of the Christian Federation.

At Sandwich, Mass., all four of the churches of the town are holding services together. At Brookfield, Mass., the Methodists are worshipping with the Unitarians. In Boston the First Church (Unitarian) and the Central Congregational Church worship together. There are probably many more of these mergers and it will be appreciated if notice of them can be sent to Headquarters. Why are those that have thus far been reported all east of the Connecticut River?

Department of Religious Education

The event of most importance in the near future to this department and to those it serves is the meeting of the Religious Education Association, to be held in Atlantic City, N. J., March 4 to 6. This is one of the specialized conferences, and so of greatest interest to workers in the line of religious education. All its sessions are open to the public. Two closely related themes are to be considered under the general topic of Community Organization. A careful study of the program shows that its dominant note is that principle of Universal Brotherhood which our faith has long emphasized. The Council will consider how that brotherhood may best express itself and what is being done today to further it. The evening sessions consider it in such searching topics as: "In What Practical Ways Shall We Love Our Enemies?", "Cultivating the Wider Love in Children Through the Organization of the Church School," and "Developing the Vision of World Relations in Brotherhood." Departmental sessions, one of which will relate to Church Schools, will occupy certain periods on Tuesday and Wednesday, while the general sessions on these days will be devoted to the way in which the various factors of community life — churches, schools, Christian associations, amusement centres and settlements — may be coordinated. Complete programs with names of speakers are soon to be issued, and may be obtained by addressing The Religious Education Association, 1032 East 55th St., Chicago.

This department cooperated with Sunday-school leaders of all denominations and with the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian relief, in an appeal to our schools in behalf of the starving and destitute in Bible lands. Our appeal was sent out from the New York Office, 1 Madison Ave., where literature on the subject may be obtained. Two programs which they offer free of charge for a Sunday-school session are of special interest. One is a dramatization of the parable of the Good Samaritan, the other is "Boys and Girls of Bible Lands", with directions for costumes to illustrate it. Vivid presentation of scenes or figures as suggested in these programs makes the appeal concrete and compelling both to children and to their elders. Early reports indicate that our schools are making an excellent response to this pressing need. Circulars about the work may be secured at this office.

Manuals in the new course scheduled for issue in the spring are the Kindergarten book, which is now in type; Miss Cobb's book for pupils of nine, "God's Wonder World," and Mrs. Cabot's for the age of fifteen, "Our Part in the World", which will soon go to the printer. A most acceptable outline for the book for pupils sixteen years old has been secured from Rev. Frederick M. Eliot, of St. Paul, and he is already at work upon it. A book by Professor Goodspeed, entitled "The Story of the New Testament", has been found so satisfactory that the Manuals Committee recommends it for use at the point in the Advanced Department where our course calls for the subject "The Building of the New Testament." It will probably be on sale at 25 Beacon Street in a few weeks.

A joint committee from the Sunday School Society and the Young People's Religious Union is working on the correlation of the activities of the church school and the Y. P. R. U. It is hoped that the work of these two departments in our churches may be brought into

one plan for religious education, so that they shall supplement each other and coördinate these two parts of the church work.

Three books of much importance to workers in our field have recently been issued: *A Social Theory of Religious Education*, by George Albert Coe of Union Theological Seminary; *Religious Education and Democracy*, by B. S. Winchester of Yale School of Religion, and *Religious Training in the School and Home*, by Sneath, Hodges and Tweedy. A full review of the first of these was printed in the *Christian Register* on January 3, and the others will soon receive notice there. Copies of each will be found in the reference library of this department.

Department of Community Service

The churches are now giving so much of their time to war work that they have very little opportunity for the extension of what has been known as Community Service. The time, too, of the Secretary of the Department, during the past month, has been given entirely to the work of the War Work Council. This, however, is essentially community service, and a partial account of the activities of the Council is not out of place in this column. In the last issue of WORD AND WORK the personnel of the Council was given. It should be stated that, with the exception of the Executive Committee, the service of the members of the Council is purely advisory. They are all extremely busy men, and while they give freely and cheerfully the benefit of their experience and advice they cannot be called upon for particular service to individuals. Three members of the Council, for instance, are in Europe. While it would be a satisfaction to many people concerned if they could respond to calls from the men of our Unitarian churches who are in the foreign service, it is not possible to ask for such attentions on the part of our overseas counsellors.

The primary work of the War Council is in the United States. It has cooperated efficiently with the Food Conservation Committee, the campaigns for funds for the Red Cross, the Liberty Loan, and the War Work of the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association. Through the Secretary of the Council it has been in close cooperation with the Boston War Camp Community Service. He is a member of the Executive Committee and also Chairman of the Committee on Church Activities, which has organized the extension of hospitality on the part of the churches to the soldiers and sailors in and near Boston.

One of the most interesting features of cooperative work has been with the Christian Federation of Ayer, the location of Camp Devens, the mobilization camp of New England. Before the coming of the camp Ayer was a typical over-churched town. With a population of about three thousand there were six churches: Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Unitarian and Roman Catholic. The Congregational and Methodist churches federated, which made a slight improvement in the situation. Upon the selection of the town as the site of Camp Devens thousands of soldiers and civilians poured in, for whom there was no adequate social and religious provision. The churches quickly realized that the problems were too large for them to solve individually or collectively and called upon their denominational authorities for help. After full discussion by representatives of the local churches and the denominational boards or war work councils, the Christian Federation of Ayer was organized and incorporated. A large building called the "Federation House" has been erected on the road from the town to the Camp as "the gift of the churches of Ayer to the soldiers". It contains an auditorium seating five hundred people, a large lounging room with a huge fireplace, equipped with comfortable chairs, materials for writing, magazines, papers, etc., a rest room for women, offices, smoking room,

bowling alleys, and shower baths.

The Council has appointed volunteer chaplains at thirty-two camps, scattered all over the country. These men are from the nearest churches, and through the courtesy of the Secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. huts are able to spend much time at the camps. They are eager to be of any service in their power, especially to men from our Unitarian churches. They will be glad to receive the names of such men whom they will make it a point to see and to whom they will render every attention possible. Names can be sent to Mr. Forbes, the Secretary of the Council, and by him will be transmitted to the chaplains or he will give the name of any chaplain upon request and those interested can communicate with him directly.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee of the American Unitarian Association met on January 23, 1918, and organized with Norman L. Bassett of Augusta, Me. as chairman, and Rev. F. Raymond Sturtevant of Taunton, Mass., as secretary. The other members of the committee are Mrs. Whitman Cross, Washington, D. C., Henry B. Little of Newburyport, Mass., and Rev. Frank S. C. Wicks of Indianapolis, Ind.

The vote under which this committee was appointed is hereto appended:

"VOTED: That the President shall appoint immediately after the annual meeting a committee of five members of the Association, no one of whom shall be an officer or director, to serve as a nominating committee. The names of this committee shall be printed in the Annual Report and in the Year Book. It shall receive suggestions of names of possible candidates up to the first of February preceding the annual meeting, and shall publish a list of its nominations in all the denomination's papers before the first of March. Other candidates besides those selected by the nominating committee, duly nominated by fifty adult Unitarians, of whom not more than five shall be members of one church, society or parish, shall be added to the official ballot, properly designated as nominated on nomination papers, provided, however, such nominations are duly submitted to the nominating committee before the first of April preceding the annual meeting. The nominating committee shall prepare an official printed ballot for use at the annual meeting, publishing copies of it in all the denominational papers before the first of May preceding the annual meeting. The first committee shall be selected from the members of the present nominating committee whose terms expire in 1916, and from the proposed members on the ballot submitted to this meeting."

It was voted to proceed with this vote.

The nominating committee, therefore, desires to announce that it is prepared to receive suggestions of available candidates for nominations to the following offices, viz.: president; a vice-president from each of the following districts, Northern New England, Southern New England, Middle States, Southern States, Central West, Rocky Mountain States; Pacific Coast and Dominion of Canada; secretary; assistant secretary; treasurer; six other directors, four of whom must be from New England, one from the Middle and Southern States, and one from the Western States and Pacific Coast.

All suggestions and correspondence should be addressed to the chairman or secretary and be in the hands of the committee not later than February 15th. The time February 1st as stated in the vote is by courtesy extended to February 15th.

NORMAN L. BASSETT, *Chairman*
RAYMOND F. STURTEVANT, *Secretary*
MRS. WHITMAN CROSS
HENRY B. LITTLE
FRANK S. C. WICKS

Publication Department

Numerous inquiries have come to us as to the effect the war has had upon our religious publications. We feel, therefore, that the readers of WORD AND WORK may be interested to know just how the number of tracts printed since the first of last May compares with the number printed during the year ending May 1, 1917 — just one month after the declaration of war by the United States. During the year 1916–1917 the total number of tracts printed was 405,350; during the first eight months of this year the total has been 328,000, or approximately 28,000 more than at the corresponding date last year. In addition to these

regular publications you have issued through this department, 147,000 distinctly war publications which have gone into the camps and homes, and one pamphlet especially for those unfortunate fellows who are in the hospitals. The grand total for the eight months of all material properly classified under the Publication Department amounts to 777,300.

In response to a considerable demand for a suitable motto for the Sunday-school and home, we have issued, attractively framed, those immortal words of Lincoln, taken from his second inaugural speech. A complete description will be found on the inside cover of this number. We have also printed a Message of Thanksgiving, as originally appeared on the Thanksgiving cover of the *Youth's Companion*, which may be had free in limited supply. This poster is in colors on white cardboard measuring 9½ x 11 inches.

The *Beacon Press* has purchased from the original publishers, the *Sherman, French and Company*, the entire stock of "The Priest," by Rev. William L. Sullivan. It is with great satisfaction that the *Beacon Press* adds this publication to its list and we give this widely known book our heartiest recommendation to the readers of WORD AND WORK. Beginning with February 1, 1918, and extending for a limited period, the price of this book will be reduced from $1.25 net to $1.00, or $1.14 by mail, in order that it may be within the reach of all our readers.

WHO ARE THESE UNITARIANS — (A. U. A. Series, No. 288)

By George H. Badger

A sound and convincing reply to the effect that reasonableness, progressiveness and the eternal method of good-will are the key-notes of the Unitarian theology, and that Unitarians are concerned with the endeavor to realize these ideals, rather than with the business of multiplying the number of people "who think their way" in religion.

Published for Free Distribution—Order as No. 288, not by title

PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT, AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

25 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

WHAT ARE WE FIGHTING FOR?—(Army and Navy Series)

Excerpts from the Speeches and Messages of President Wilson

A compilation of the stirring words of President Wilson, as to the reasons why the United States was unwillingly forced into the great conflict.

Published for Free Distribution

WAR WORK COUNCIL OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCHES

25 BEACON STREET, BOSTON

FOR FREEDOM AND HUMANITY—READINGS—(First Series)

Compiled by Henry Hallam Saunderson

With the outbreak of the war in April, 1917, Mr. Saunderson began the preparation every week of a column in the *Christian Register* under the title "For Freedom and Humanity." From scripture and from modern poetry and prose he has selected great passages which express the ideals that are so much needed at the present time. Each week the reading has also included a prayer. The first series of readings — about twenty-five in number — are now published in pamphlet form.

Published by THE BEACON PRESS, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

The Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Miss Lucy Lowell, *President*
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, *Rec. Sec.*,
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Lucia Clapp Noyes, *Treasurer*
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
226 Windermere Ave., Wayne, Pa.

The Post Office Mission and the Soldiers

The question "What can the Post Office Mission do for the men in camps" has been asked so frequently that the central committee has thought a few suggestions, the result of consultations with camp-chaplains, might be helpful; it therefore offers the following:

1. Begin with the men who have gone to the war from your own church. If they are interested they will talk with their comrades and so widen the field for your work in a perfectly natural way.

2. Choose one person in your church whose duty it shall be to keep the men from your congregation informed of home doings — send church calendars newspaper items, letters telling of church work or play.

3. Do *not* send sermons unless the men ask for something of the kind: the men in camps as a rule have plenty to read and it is neither seemly nor wise to have our literature tossed about in carelessness. Make your work *personal;* the message from soul to soul was the way of the Master, and we need it now as never before; printed words are good as supplements, but they can never have the power of those that go direct from one heart to another.

4. If it seems well to send tracts they should always be cheerful. The need for cheer in these days speaks for itself, especially as our evangelical co-workers are continuing their old-time methods of preaching. The men are quite beyond the divisions of the sects; they need the great fundamentals of religion which will enable them to go on unafraid, whatever the future may bring.

When the men go overseas the work of the Post Office Mission is most important as it is only through the home churches that the men are *sure* of Unitarian influence. We have workers with the Y. M. C. A. but they will be comparatively few and our men will be widely scattered. But by faithful, conscientious and above all personal work, we feel sure that the light of the faith of our fathers will shine on their sons bringing them the loyalty, devotion, faith and courage for which Unitarianism stands.

Anna F. Dakin,
Chairman Post Office Mission Committee.

A remarkable response has been made to the request in the January number of Word and Work for books to be sent to the army post at Porto Rico. Books have been sent by individual Alliance women directly to the post but at headquarters we have received two hundred and fifty volumes which are now being packed and will be at their destination by the first of February. The books will make rejoice the heart of any one who has ever chanced to see the all-too-frequently dreary and haphazard collections brought together by such a request. This time people have given of their best and newest with a real consideration for the probable needs and desires of the reader. Wells's and Masefield's novels are here, the President's war messages, Joseph Lincoln's Cape Cod yarns and light essays and good detective stories in abundance. Hopkins on Smith, Arnold Bennett and William J. Locke are generously represented. Only one book is duplicated and that is a novel by DeMorgan. Officers and

enlisted men will enjoy this permanent little library which goes to them with kindly wishes for their comfort and real interest in their welfare.

Executive Board

The monthly meeting was held January 11 at the First Church, Philadelphia. There were present Miss Lowell, presiding, Mmes. Voigt, Louson, Peterson, Davis, Noyes, Atherton, Gilson, Griffin, Donnell, Anderson, Woodbridge, and about seventy members of the branches in Philadelphia, Wilmington, Trenton and Vineland, N. J., Baltimore, Md., Northumberland, Pa., and the New York League.

The President read the following resolution addressed to her by the Montreal branch of The Alliance:

"Whereas, we, the members of the Montreal Branch of the Women's Alliance have been deeply moved by the magnificent generosity with which the people of the United States have rushed to the relief of our stricken compatriots of the city of Halifax,

Be it Resolved — That we place on record our profound appreciation of the splendid philanthropy of the American people, which adds yet another to the many unbreakable ties which bind together our two nations.

Also, Resolved: That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Alliance."

The Post Office Mission committee was authorized to issue a letter suggesting ways to keep in touch with our men in camp here or in service overseas.

Mrs. Peterson told of the variety of ways in which our four ministers of the Southern Circuit are able to serve their several communities and gave an illustration of the influence of the schools through the story of the return of one of the former students from camp to bring his Christmas gift to his friends at Shelter Neck.

The International committee reported that the rules of our Government make it impossible to cooperate with the correspondence bureau of the International Union in forwarding letters to enemy countries.

The College Centers committee reported that Miss Carol Curtis of Rochester, N. Y., is to be student secretary among the girls at Ithaca, N. Y. Miss Isabel S. Allen, who holds that position at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., has about one hundred girls interested in the Unitarian Girls' Club there.

Mrs. Woodbridge of Germantown, Mrs. Wood of Baltimore and Mrs. Anderson of Pittsburgh were appointed a committee to confer with that on College Centers about local opportunities for student work.

By rising vote the board put on record its great appreciation of the inestimable service to the denomination rendered by Mr. George H. Ellis and Mrs. Emma E. Marean through their devoted labors for the Christian Register.

In memoriam have been placed the names of Mrs. Lew C. Hill by Unity Circle, Boston; Mrs. Fannie Low Lovejoy by Waterville, Me.; and Miss Eliza E. Foster by Arlington Street branch, Boston.

Mrs. K. Maude Hinds of Milford, N. H., has been elected Director to succeed Miss Bellows.

A letter of greeting was voted to Mrs. Paul M. Chamberlain, Vice-president, who is ill.

Letters of sympathy were ordered to Miss Ida Slade of Flushing, N. Y., whose sister has recently died; and to Mrs. Joseph May of Philadelphia in this hour of her bereavement.

After a delightful luncheon hour together with the Philadelphia ladies as hostesses, an open conference was held in the church beginning with a brief religious service.

Miss Lowell introduced Miss Cook of Trenton, N. J., who gave definite suggestions from her experience as to ways of holding the interest of children in the Sunday School lesson. Several took part in the discussion that followed.

Mrs. Voigt aroused keen interest in the crèche at Cap d'Antibes, France, which is already open because she was

able to guarantee assistance. Will those who wish to help correspond with Mrs. W. L. Voigt, 222 Riverside Drive, New York City?

Mrs. Gilson told something of her experience as community worker at Ayer, Mass., where Camp Devens is located, and showed the great opportunity for effective denominational cooperation.

The reports of the day from the Middle States and Canada told of efforts everywhere to work with other organizations in "whatever line we are most needed and are best equipped to follow."

On motion of Rev. Mr. Griffin the meeting charged Mrs. Voigt with a message of loving appreciation for Mrs. Weller of Montreal who has been in France nursing the wounded for two and one half years.

A rising vote of thanks to the Philadelphia League and the First Church branch expressed something of the feeling of the board, and Mrs. Warner for the League thanked the board for coming to Philadelphia with what had proved to be an inspiring message.

Again the wisdom of the founders was approved in ruling that each year at least one meeting should be held outside of Boston. Closer acquaintance means cooperation and fellowship and the strengthening of the cause.

The next meeting will occur February 8, 1918, when reports are expected from Pacific Coast and six Massachusetts directors.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON,
Recording Secretary.

"The James Street Army Club"

It was through an inspiration of the woman trustee of May Memorial Church of Syracuse, that the church parlors were transformed into a club for the soldiers. Quick action followed upon the suggestion and within a week the doors were opened with a big welcome for the men encamped on the city's outskirts.

It is felt that it is impossible to estimate the good accomplished, not only for the men, but for ourselves and we feel repaid for every effort made by the positive results we have known. The numerous letters from France, and the Southern camps, are full of appreciation and gratitude. One young boy, too shy to openly thank us, wrote the following note opposite his name on the register: "A few words of thanks before leaving for France. The kindness they have shown to me is too great to be expressed by words. Good Bye and Good Luck to the people of Syracuse."

The opening of the Club was immediately followed by the establishing of similar clubs in other churches until at last even the city itself had a club in the heart of the down-town section. The Club occupied three floors, the upper room was the reading and writing room. Here were found a book case full of books, donated for the occasion; tables loaded with magazines and daily papers; writing tables fully equipped with writing materials and a piano in the corner.

Adjoining this room were, the kitchen and pantry, from which, each Wednesday and Sunday evening refreshments were served. The soldiers helped in preparing sandwiches serving coffee and ice cream; even assisting with the dishwashing. This informality helped to bring soldier and citizen into closer relationship. Many friendships were formed through this invaluable personal touch.

Two nights a week an opportunity was given the boys to study bread and butter French and to learn to ask, at the boys' request, "which is the way to Berlin." The boys most faithful in attendance at the club were completely outfitted with knitted supplies and at Christmas were sent boxes.

The Sunday-school room became the game room. Two pool tables were placed here, besides several card and other game tables. A victrola and a piano were in almost constant use. Here on the refreshment evenings some form of entertainment was given, or the men sang popular songs. Only a few workers were needed for the success of

the enterprize. It was a club for the soldiers, but friends were so glad to help that church people finally had to take turns at the coveted service.

In the basement two shower baths were installed. This was our greatest expense, but was most popular with the soldiers. All expense incurred was cheerfully borne by church members. This included the raising of $700 at the beginning for alterations, and $150 a month as long as the Camp remained. Three men and three women formed the governing board.

The Club welcomed all men in uniform. No charges were made for anything. The utmost was done to make the men feel at home. A birthday called forth a birthday cake, with twenty-two pink candles. This was for a boy of German parentage.

Smoking was allowed but no privilege was abused, as men were on their honor.

The Club was open daily from two until ten and was chaperoned by the women in the afternoon; the men taking charge at night. In order to reach all classes of soldiers we were obliged to announce that no religion would be thrust upon them, and we were successful in having men of all faiths, as well as men of no faith at all, become regular patrons. Some of them were overheard to say that this was a church club where they lived their religion instead of preaching it.

When our service flag was dedicated in November, a star was placed on it for one of our soldiers, not a recruit, but a man who had been in the Army sixteen years. He said he would like to go "Over There" as an adopted son of May Memorial Church.

CLARA L. EVERETT.

Camp Devens

The following additional contributions to the Camp Devens Fund through the New England Associate Alliance are gratefully acknowledged.

STELLA P. BEARD, *Treasurer*.

First Parish, Brookline, Mass.	$110.00
New Bedford, Mass.	50.00
Arlington Street, Boston	50.00
West Newton, Mass.	25.00
Worcester, Mass., Second Parish	25.00
Kings Chapel, Boston	20.00
Lexington, Mass.	20.00
Billerica, Mass.	12.50
Presque Isle, Maine	12.60
Keene, N. H., Sewing Society	10.00
North Easton, Mass., Unity Branch	10.00
Uxbridge, Mass.	10.00
West Roxbury, Mass.	10.00
Dover, Mass.	10.00
Concord, N. H.	10.00
Lebanon, N. H.	10.00
South Congregational, Boston	10.00
Leominster, Mass.	10.00
Springfield, Unity Church	10.00
East Pepperell, Mass.	5.00
First Church, Boston	5.00
Deerfield, Mass.	5.00
Church of the Disciples, Boston	5.00
Littleton, Mass.	5.00
Braintree, Mass., All Souls	5.00
Sharon, Mass.	5.00
Littleton, N. H.	5.00
Waltham, Mass.	5.00
Andover, N. H.	5.00
South Boston, Hawes Branch	5.00
East Boston, Church of Our Father	5.00
First Church, Winthrop	5.00
Neponset, Mass.	5.00
Natick, Mass., additional	5.00
Beverly, Mass., Parish Aid	5.00
Chicopee, Mass.	5.00
Wilton, N. H.	5.00
Mendon, Mass.	3.00
Dorchester, Channing Branch	2.00
Bridgewater, Mass.	2.00

The Executive Board of the New England Associate Alliance wish to thank the friends contributing towards the purchase of blankets and bedding for our Volunteer Chaplain at Camp Devens.

STELLA P. BEARD, *Treasurer*.

Miss Lucy Lowell, Boston	15.00
Members and friends of Concord, Mass. Church	5.00
Mrs. John W. Dole, Northampton, Mass.	5.00
Arlington St. Branch, Boston	10.00
Mrs. Christopher R. Eliot, Boston	1.00

Christmas at Swansboro

When school opens Monday my children will have composition books, arithmetic tablets, pencils, erasers and chalk ready to start the second half of the school year properly equipped. We had the Christmas tree in the church and it was beautiful. Some friends had sent

decorations so that it was a-sparkle from base to tip and it was as big as the church would hold. Our exercises were of the simplest. The children gathered at the back of the room and hummed through without the organ one verse of "Silent Night," then they marched down to the front still humming and to a soft accompaniment of the organ. Each child carried a small holly branch. They lined up in front of the pulpit railing with the tree as a setting behind them and there sang the three verses of that carol. Four of my littlest girls sang one verse of "Away in a manger" and then all sang "The First Noel." After that three boys, one from Miss Battle's room and two from mine, sang "We Three Kings of Orient" to the chorus of which I sang a soft alto. Then half a dozen of my little ones with scarlet wreathes and swinging red Christmas bells marched to and from their seats singing a New Year song. "Carol, Brothers, Carol" by all the children was our last song before we stripped the tree. Each child received a handful of popcorn, an orange or apple, and a cornucopia of Christmas candy. The candy was sent by Miss Forness, a former teacher. The cornucopias were the little paper mats woven by the tiniest ones and pasted into shape, or rather sewn, by the next older children. To give them weight and finish we sewed a silver paper covered nut to the bottom of each. We made enough for the whole school. Besides these each child received a small gift from the school (Miss Battle and myself) and something from the gifts sent by Miss Frost and the Alliance Branch at Peabody, Mass., Miss Battle's room received gifts from Miss Forness and in my room I made each child a picture. I chose them from the different magazines and then I mounted them on harmonizing paper, pasted that on cardboard and on the back pasted strong string to hang them up by. To each child's package I tied a tiny red cotton batting Santa at one end and at the other a big bell cut out of stout red paper on which was the child's name. The danglingness of it pleased the children. Then a friend had sent us plenty of Christmas stickers so that together with the white tissue paper and red string our presents made a very brave showing. When the exercises were over, we had the audience remain seated while the children, beginning with the littlest ones, marched out singing lustily "Carol, Brothers, Carol" again.

EDITH G. PECKER.

News from the Branches

Mrs. Clifton M. Gray writes from the Helping Hands Branch of Charleston, S. C.: "Dear Friends and Co-workers: — We beg to thank you all in the United States and Canada through WORD AND WORK in order to conserve time and money because we are all engaged in war work. Our appeal for a scholarship to send a crippled boy to school at Shelter Neck, N. C., has been most generously met and we wish to thank you not only for the liberal donations but for the cordial notes which have accompanied them. It makes us realize to what a large body of noble women we belong and gives us courage to keep our little candle still burning."

The Alliance of Unity Church Pittsfield, Mass., has just held a successful sale and entertainment and wishes to thank most heartily the branches that responded so generously to their requests for contributions to a parcel post table.

At the December board meeting of the New York League the announcement that the income of $5,000 had been given to the League by Mrs. Mary Richardson was received with gratitude.

The monthly meeting of the Philadelphia League was held in the First Unitarian Church on January 3, 1918, the President, Mrs. Alfred Warren, in the chair.

Mrs. Davis gave an interesting account of Unitarian work at the camps. The sum of $5 was voted to the Cheerful Letter, $25 for The Alliance, $15 for the American Unitarian Association, and $10 for the Southern Circuit. Miss Doris Tripp of Vineland read a paper

on "The Importance of High Ideals." During the meeting the ladies knit garments for the soldiers.

The Monthly conference of Alliance Branches will meet in Arlington Street Church Vestry Boston, Monday, February 4, at 10.30 A. M. Mrs. Edward E. Allen of Watertown, Mass., will preside and Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson will speak on "The Wayside Pulpit".

Mrs. Bale, director for Western Canada, writes: "The branches will not have to use Lend-a-Hand" cards next Christmas. My surplus from last year and my extra edition of one thousand cards are all gone, thanks to the support of our splendid body of Alliance women. I would like to speak of the orders from Toledo, Ohio, Springfield, Mass., First Unitarian Alliance of Philadelphia, St. Paul, Minn. and Syracuse, N. Y., all of them buying more than ten dozen cards each. I do not appreciate these orders any more gratefully than the smaller ones, even the single ten cent orders. I had cash contributions from friends and branches, no gift was over $3.00 and one was as low as ten cents.

Cash	$22.60	
Total net sales for cards	178.40	$201.00

The amount was divided between the branches of Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary and All Souls of Winnipeg, equally. Each branch except Winnipeg had two hundred and fifty cards given it and they sold them for their own profit. With the $250. I made last year and the $201 made this year, and the profit from sales made by the branches, the total amount made from the Lend-a-Hand cards is $500 and over (I do not have the exact sum each branch made from the sale of their gift of cards but the total would be over $50 I am sure), so you can all feel you have sent this splendid sum to your Canadian sisters for their war relief work, and it is most gratefully and touchingly received and used in the heroic work the Canadian branches are doing, to aid the returned soldier who has sacrificed his health and his poor body for us and to help the Red Cross in their work of mercy on the field and in the trenches."

Junior Fellowship Notes

It is most encouraging to hear of the good work being done by our smallest Junior Alliances. Here is a brief word from groups in four different states:

Lancaster, Pa., with seven members, reports that they are very busy working for the soldiers. They have been knitting six inch squares to make a blanket. They are planning to give a "Spanish Chocolate," at which they will sell Larkin goods.

Richmond, Va., has six members. They have given over all their meetings to Red Cross work. The members knit, while one reads aloud. They have had parties for the soldiers from a nearby camp, and at Christmas time they decorated the church, going to the woods themselves to get the greens.

Passaic, N. J., also has a membership of six. They hold two meetings a month; one for business followed by a social hour, and the other for work. Besides knitting, they have made pillows, trench candles, and articles for their Easter sale.

Evanston, Ill., with only five members, has made and filled comfort kits, knitted sweaters and other articles for the Red Cross, has also made infants' clothes for the visiting nurse, and dresses for children in the Hindman School, Ky. They have a flower committee to decorate the church.

Appeals

Appeals stand as follows:

Green Harbor, Mass.	$107
Meadville Students	130
Pacific School Students	143
Tuckerman School	68
San Antonio, Texas	111
Italian Mission	205
Young People's Religious Union	919
White Plains, N. Y.	475
Southern Circuit, in addition to pledges	862

Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters: Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Frederick M. Eliot, *President*

Rev. Nelson J. Springer, *Secretary* Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, *Treasurer*

The Y. P. R. U. is achieving concrete results. We are very happy to be able to say this to the denomination, and to be able then to cite the tangible evidence.

We now have 175 young people's societies among our churches. Of this number, 21 are in existence at the present time chiefly because of the new policy of the Y. P. R. U. Of these 21, 13 have been organized since September 1, and 8 more have been induced to continue their meetings after voting to disband. These 21 societies actually represent more than 210 young people, definitely and consciously organized in the name of Unitarianism, who would not otherwise be so organized. Can anyone longer doubt that the work of the Y. P. R.U. has a valid meaning for the future of our churches?

The various possibilities of young people's work in our churches is admirably illustrated by a recent letter from the society in Berkeley, Cal. In addition to its social meetings, this group is holding a fortnightly meeting known as the "New Republic Circle." Articles in the "New Republic" are a chief inspiration to debate; but other periodicals and books are examined, and, from time to time, the society buys significant books on living issues. Participants in discussions are required to come to the meetings fortified by intelligent preparation.

Since the entrance of our country into the war, this society has reduced the pretentiousness of its social enterprises, and now prefaces a fortnightly hour of informal dancing with two hours of organized relief work. This evidence of intelligent earnestness on the part of our young people is to be commended to the consideration of such as have persisted in saying that young America does not understand the meaning of the war.

The society recently founded in Vineland, N. J., by Rev. C. H. Valentine, along lines of organization indicated by the field secretary, is notable for two reasons: (1) it displays the wisdom of the national organization in laying plans for the development of local societies; and (2) it reveals the efficiency and promise of the new minister in Vineland. When Mr. Valentine went to Vineland, he told the field secretary that he had in his church possibly two young people. The society now has a membership of 57. All of this has been accomplished since October 1, 1917.

The Y. P. R. U. is preparing for the press Mr. Valentine's first Biblical pageant, "Samuel," one scene from which was produced on the theological school campus in Meadville last summer. This "scene performance" was successful enough to demonstrate the practicability of using such material for dramatic purposes, and the fact that the pageant was faithfully constructed in a manner that made it actable. Mr. Valentine's pageant will be ready by February 15, and may be had on application to the field secretary for the sum of fifty cents. Mr. Valentine has now under preparation three other pageants, "Saul," "David," and "Solomon," which he will submit to the Y. P. R. U. The organization hopes that it may be able to continue to publish such works for the uses of its young people; but it will need adequate financial support.

The Y. P. R. U. announces that a central committee, composed of Mr. Carl B. Wetherell, Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, Mr. Nelson J. Springer, Mr. Harold G. Arnold, and Mr. Frederick G. May, Jr., is planning for a series of six Sunday evening meetings to be held in Boston during April and on the first two Sundays of May. In these meetings it is proposed to set forth: (1) the reason and value of the Y. P. R. U.'s existence; (2) its accom-

plishments for the year; and (3) its plans for the future. All that is to be said will be of a very definite character. The speakers who have thus far consented to address these meetings follow: Rev. Wm. I. Lawrance, Rev. Louis C. Cornish, Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, and Rev. William Laurence Sullivan. Dr. Sullivan will speak at the closing meeting of the series, on the second Sunday evening in May. He will say something of "The Meaning of Youth to Unitarian Religion After the War."

Although these meetings are to be held, necessarily, in Boston, all of the churches will be kept fully informed of the plans for, and the results of, the meetings. Following the departure of the field secretary on his western trip, beginning Jan. 27, Mr. Wetherell will assume the chairmanship of the central committee, and communications with reference to our proposed spring meetings should be sent to Mr. Wetherell in care of 25 Beacon Street.

At this time it is hoped by the Board of Directors that groups which have already been visited by the field secretary will write to the Board expressing their estimate of the work which the field secretary did for and with them, and adding some opinion of the possibilities for development which they see in the field secretary's work.

We wish further to announce our purpose to add an office secretary to our executive staff, as early as possible. This intention has not been arrived at without a very clear conception on the part of the Board of Directors as to what the society needs, and what the office secretary is for. Although the present volume of correspondence is large, and shows a tendency to increase, there is very little correspondence coming to the office that is not in some way initiated by the office itself. The mere mechanical tasks of filing, etc., which go with every office, are so slight that to employ a person merely for such mechanical work would be a waste of time and money, however slight the salary. The need of an office secretary is for different reasons.

The field secretary presented this proposal and the reasons for it to a meeting of branch Alliances in Channing Hall on the morning of January 7. Both the proposal, and the assigned reasons, met with hearty approval. It seems clear that we ought to employ, and need to employ, both an office and a field secretary. Our problem is, can we obtain the financial support needed to permit us to engage an office secretary beginning with our next fiscal year? The field secretary, in addition to his proper field work, is now doing all that is to be asked of the office secretary. Obviously this is unsatisfactory, for one of the two branches of the work has to be slighted in order that the other may go ahead.

We want our office to be a constant and immediate source of specific and individual, intimate, advice and information to the local societies. We want in the office some one to keep the field secretary posted while he is abroad and in every way to raise his efforts to their highest efficiency. We want to make possible the greatest economy in the expenditure of funds for travelling expenses. We want in the office some one to direct all publicity and educational campaigns, to write monthly letters to societies, to take charge of correspondence with ministers, with other organizations, and with various individuals, to write the articles for WORD AND WORK and the *"Register"*, to compile bibliographies practical for the use of young people in the study of Unitarian history and biography, to compile topic lists of variety and value, and to undertake all the statistical work now in the hands of the chairman of the Extension Committee. We can not speak too highly of the valuable service already rendered by Miss Packard as chairman of the Extension Committee; but it is clear that the work is important enough and fruitful enough to be done by someone whose entire time belongs to the Y. P. R. U.

Some have thought that these demands

presuppose an individual who does not exist. If however, we can be equipped to pay the office secretary a salary equal to that now paid the field secretary, a matter of simple justice which must be within the reach of a religious organization, we are in a position to produce some one who can meet all of these demands and more. It is only because we have a really significant and considerable task to perform and a person well qualified to discharge it that we presume to ask for funds at all.

An estimate based on experience that from now on we need a minimum of $4,000 per year to spend for current expenses, including salaries, transportation, bills for printing, etc. With $5,000 we are confident that we could reach high degree of efficiency. The problem which we submit to the churches at the present moment is this:

Are the young people who will constitute the churches of to-morrow worth from four to five thousand dollars a year?

We ask you to recall F. M. Eliot's article, "A Y. P. R. U. Service Banner", which appeared in the January WORD AND WORK. We ask you to hold in mind a vision of our newly organized societies, and of the societies reclaimed. Remember too that the year is not over and past, that there doubtless will be further results before it comes to an end.

The latest results from the biennial bazaar show a profit of more than one thousand dollars, with expenses limited to the sum of $12.10. We are gratified by these results; but one thousand dollars does not represent all the money we are going to need. We trust, however, that with the growing consciousness of the importance of young people's work the churches will see their way clear to help us solve our financial problem.

The treasurer's figures follow:

Receipts of the Biennial Bazaar, December 7, 1917:

Contributions		$198.00
Life Members' Table		311.57
Food Table		158.52
Restaurant		107.75
Household Table		102.46
Aprons and Handkerchiefs		47.01
Preserves and Pickles		48.50
Admissions		18.45
Second-hand Books		10.70
Grabs		7.70
Entertainment		5.10
Bundle Table		4.05
Silhouette Artist		3.00
		$1,022.81
Expenses:		
Paid Janitor	$10.00	
Messenger	.65	
Chairman's Expenses	1.45	
		12.10
Balance		$1,010.71

Unitarian Temperance Society

Rev. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES, *President*, New York, N. Y.
Mrs. FRANK L. YOUNG, *Vice-President*, Dorchester, Mass.
Rev. CHESTER A. DRUMMOND, *Secretary*, Somerville, Mass.
CHARLES H. STEARNS, *Treasurer*, Brookline, Mass.

TWO THINGS TO DO – AT ONCE!

Congress has submitted to the various state legislatures the question of whether or no they favor Permanent National Prohibition, that is, favor stopping for all time the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquor except for mechanical, medicinal and sacramental purposes. Mississippi has already ratified. It took her legislature fifteen minutes to put it through. Eleven legislatures meet this year — Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi and Virginia. There are many Unitarian churches in some of these states. We beg that they will take it upon themselves to hold meetings on the subject and to see that their state senator and representatives will vote for the measure.

This is our last chance to do our part! One other thing—we believe, now that the French have offered to cooperate, that we can have a Dry Army in France; that is, while something might at times have to be *doled out* to the troops. They must not have carte-blanche to enter saloons and drink wines and beer, or to receive such gifts from the natives in whose houses they live. But one trouble is that so many people do not understand that wines are intoxicating. Help the War Department by sending the following poster to Secretary of War Baker, telling him you favor a Dry Army! Help general sentiment by placing the poster widely! (5 given away; 100 for $1.25). **Explode the Wine Fallacy!**

BEER and STOUT

Caused 40% of Drunkenness* in London

These contained 2¾ to 8% Alcohol.

FRENCH LIGHT WINES

Run from 6 to 12% Alcohol

THIS TRUTH VITALLY CONCERNS OUR TROOPS IN FRANCE!

*Investigation made, 1916, by British Board of Liquor Control

Unitarian Temperance Society, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

DO NOT FAIL TO SECURE OUR NEW

ROLL OF HONOR

for display in churches or church vestibules.

This is a most attractive design and is excellently adapted for enrolling the names of the young men of your Church, Sunday School or Club, who are enlisted in the Army or Navy.

It is printed in three colors on Japanese vellum, 14 inches in width by 22 inches in length, and is especially well suited for framing.

50¢ net; 58¢ by mail

AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

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With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up this nation's wounds; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

Abraham Lincoln

The above poster, measuring 12 x 8¾ inches, attractively framed, may be procured at $1.00 or $1.14 by mail. A most elevating motto for the Sunday school and home

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